

HOUSE BILL 1700  
By Odom

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-4-101,  
relative to chiropractic practice.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-4-101, is amended by deleting  
such section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

Section 63-4-101.

(a) The term "chiropractic" where used in this section is defined as the science  
and art of locating and removing interference with transmission and expression of nerve  
energy. A chiropractic may examine, diagnose, and treat patients, provided,  
chiropractics shall not perform surgery, prescribe drugs, or practice obstetrics. The  
adjustment, manipulation, or treatment shall be directed toward restoring and  
maintaining the normal neuromuscular and musculoskeletal function and health.

(b) As used in this part, "physician" means a graduate of an accredited  
chiropractic college authorized to confer upon graduates the degree of doctor of  
chiropractic (D.C.), who is duly licensed in this state.

(c)

(1) No person licensed under this title may perform a spinal manipulation or spinal adjustment without first having the legal authority to differentially diagnose, and having received a minimum of four hundred (400) hours of classroom instruction in spinal manipulation or spinal adjustment, and a minimum of eight hundred (800) hours of supervised clinical training at a facility where spinal manipulation or spinal adjustment is a primary method of treatment. "Spinal manipulation" and "spinal adjustment" are interchangeable terms that identify a method of skillful and beneficial treatment where a person uses direct thrust to move a joint of the patient's spine beyond its normal range of motion, but without exceeding the limits of anatomical integrity. A violation of this section is an unlawful practice of chiropractic and is grounds for the offending health care provider's licensing board to suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew such provider's license or take other disciplinary action allowed by law.

(2) Nothing in this subsection shall in any way apply to the scope of practice of:

(A) An osteopathic physician licensed under chapter 9 of this title; or

(B) Any person who practices medicine or surgery who is licensed under chapter 6 of this title.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.